NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending August 15, 1999

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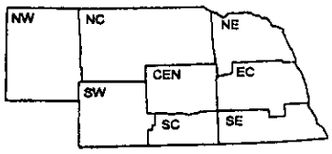

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged from two to four degrees below normals across the State except in the extreme western portion which averaged normal for this time of year. Precipitation across the State averaged from fourteen hundredths of an inch in the northwest to two and thirty-one hundredths inches in the southwest

GENERAL

Cooler temperatures and rainfall benefitted dryland and irrigated crops, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Dryland crops were feeling the stress of hot dry weather. Statewide, rainfall ranged from gentle soakers to erosion makers Heavy amounts of rainfall fell Tuesday over southwestern and south central counties, bringing relief to some of the State's driest areas. Many areas still need additional moisture for grain crops and pasture land. Producer activity included preparations for fall wheat seedings, moving grain to market, silage harvest preparations, haying, and caring for livestock.

CROPS

Corn conditions rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 53% good, and 19% excellent. Dryland corn rated 65% and irrigated corn rated 76% in good and excellent conditions Corn reaching dough stage rated 70%, slightly below last year's 67%, but well above 53% average. Corn dented rated 12%, compared to 14% last year and 11% average.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybeans setting pods rated 77%, behind last year's 89% and but near the 76% average. Soybean conditions rated 1% very poor, 6% poor, 29% fair, 47% good, and 17% excellent.

Sorghum headed rated 71%, behind last year's 89% and 76% average. Sorghum turning color rated 5%, with last year at 4% and average of 5%. Sorghum conditions also rated 4% poor, 35% fair, 52% good, and 9% excellent.

Dry Beans setting pods rated 74%, above 40% last year and the same as average Dry bean conditions rated 1% very poor, 2% poor, 22% fair, 69% good, and 6% excellent.

Oats harvested neared completion at 97%, slightly below last year and average

Alfalfa conditions rated 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 58% good, and 13% excellent Alfalfa third cutting was at 43%, slightly above last year's 42%, but well above the 34% average.

Wild Hay conditions rated at 4% poor, 17% fair, 62% good, and 17% excellent

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range conditions rated 2% very poor, 7% poor, 26% fair, 54% good, and 11% excellent Cooler temperatures were more than welcome to livestock in feedlots as well as on pastures In areas where rain was received, pastures will replenish some grazing potential.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 15, 1999	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	87	67	81	82	58	93	80	77	51	89	76
% Corn Dough	31	34	78	82	64	59	84	87	70	35	67	53
% Corn Dented	1	5	7	12	10	6	14	32	12	n/a	14	11
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	75	77	46	87	67	85	67	71	52	89	76
% Sorghum Turning Color	n/a	0	0	5	14	0	2	6	5	n/a	4	5
% Dry Beans Setting Pods	93	70	n/a	70	n/a	70	n/a	n/a	74	58	40	74
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	6	23	63	39	53	31	63	57	43	17	42	34
% Oats Harvested	81	100	100	95	96	100	100	100	97	92	98	98
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONAS OF AUGUST 13, 1999												
Days suitable	5.9	6.3	5.0	4.5	4.3	2.8	1.2	4.7	4.6	5.2	5.7	
Topsoil moisture - Very	0	2	14	0	0	1	0	13	4	5	0	
(Percent) - Short	14	16	25	24	12	4	5	24	15	28	20	
- Adequate	84	81	57	76	84	86	75	63	77	65	78	
- Surplus	2	1	4	0	4	9	20	0	4	2	2	
Subsoil moisture - Very	0	6	6	0	0	2	0	9	3	3	2	
(Percent) - Short	11	11	19	25	28	8	10	50	18	29	17	
- Adequate	89	83	73	75	69	90	90	41	78	67	79	
- Surplus	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	2	

n/a = not available.

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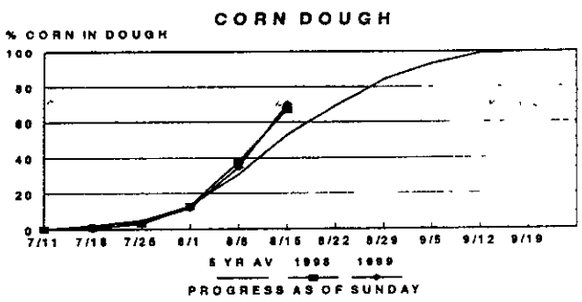
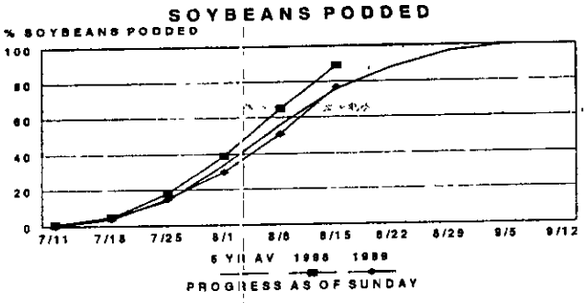
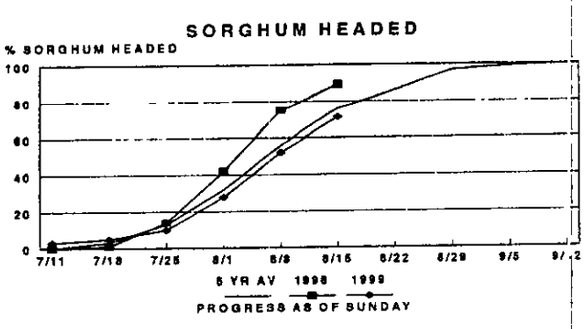
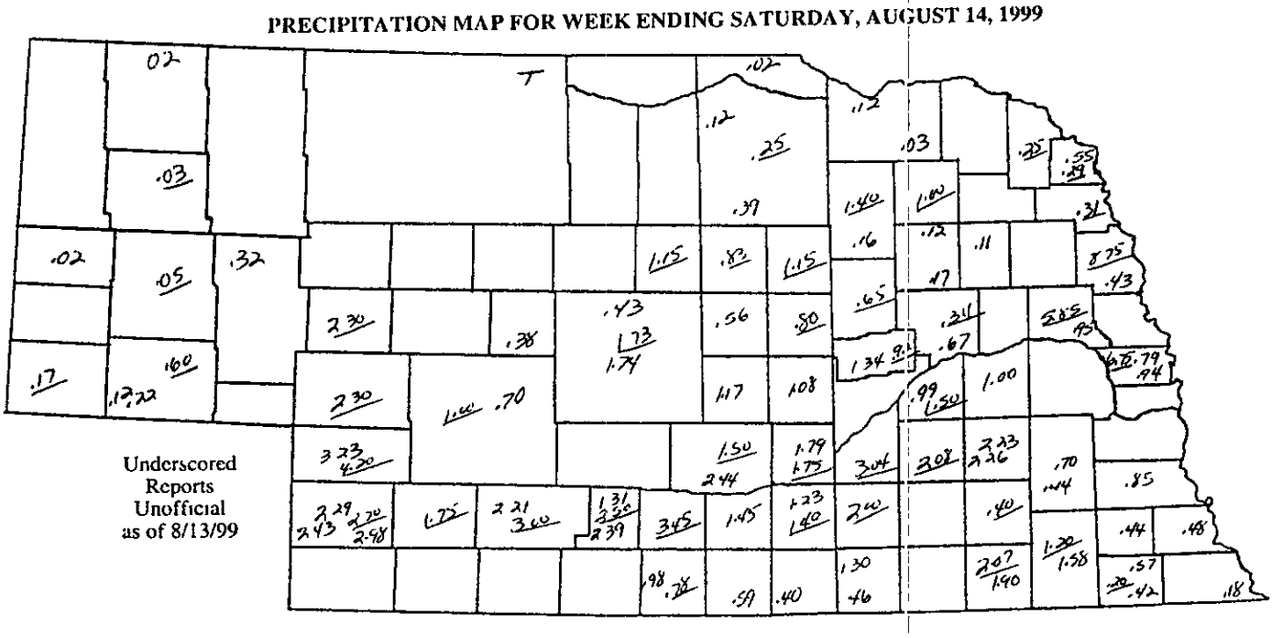






PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1999



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 14, 1999

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	14	18	21	1.32	1 12	2 31	1 19	82
Total since April 1	13 47	15.83	21 13	19 72	22 97	15.34	19 12	19 75
Normal since April 1	11.01	13 36	14 98	14 66	16 00	12 57	14 56	16 31
Total as % of normal	122%	118%	141%	135%	144%	122%	131%	121%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1999

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min			Inches			
NW	Chadron	101	52	77	---	.02	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	94	52	73	0	02	144	1814	1855
	Sidney	90	51	71	---	.22	141	1715	1902
NC	Valentine	94	44	72	-2	T	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	139	1801	2001
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	145	1911	2132
NE	Norfolk	93	50	72	-2	12	---	---	---
	Sioux City	89	50	70	-4	55	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	136	1987	2181
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	143	1927	2181
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	139	2026	2299
CEN	Grand Island	92	53	73	-2	1 79	155	2076	2206
	Ord	93	51	73	---	56	150	1997	2190
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	153	2049	2183
EC	Lincoln	94	52	74	-2	70	160	2245	2411
	Omaha	89	54	72	-3	79	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	147	2051	2239
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	145	2132	2377
SW	Imperial	95	50	73	---	2 29	---	---	---
	North Platte	91	46	71	-2	70	150	1958	2066
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	155	2003	2098
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	160	2078	2167
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	176	2358	2231
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	157	2168	2411
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	153	2046	2226

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max temp. + min temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.